COUNTRY Indochina Projected Democratic Republic of Vietnam DATE DISTR. 16 Oct. 1951

SUBJECT Offensive in Northern Laos 25X1A

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

The Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) is currently planning to open a "Northwest Front" in northern Laos, using the 316 Division under Nguyen Bang Giang<sup>2</sup>. The Political Commissar attached to the division is Song Hao<sup>2</sup>. Dong Tung, an executive commissar of the Communist Party of Indochina (PCI)

in the Viet Bac Intersector, is responsible for political operations

- Units of the 316 Division have been assigned to three sub-zones:
  - The "Ngoc Son" Regiment to the 1 sub-zone.

relative to the opening of the new front.

- The "Be Xuan Cuong" Regiment to the 2 sub-zone.
- The "Le Thanh" Regiment to the 3 sub-zone.
- The 148 Regiment, commanded by Vu Lap4, is stationed at Son La.

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■Comment. The 316 Division has consistently been reported in the northeast sector of Tonkin. Possibly this refers to the newly-formed 306 Division reported in

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- Comment. Reference to these individuals is contained in 2. from another source, on the organization of the high command of Intersector X (High Laos):
  - Nguyen Bang Giang has previously been reported as Col. Hang Giang. He is here reported as Commander-in-Chief of Intersector X.
  - Song Hao was reported as Political Commissar of Intersector X.
  - Be Xuan Cuong is presumably the same as Be Song Cuong, Commanderin-Chief of Sub-Zone A, Intersector X.

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Comment. Possibly the same as the Le Thanh reported in 3. 31 December 1949, as a Political Commissar in Intersector III as head of the personner SECURITY INFORMATION the personnel division of the 308 Division. and in

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the 308 Division as of 31 December 1949.

as Deputy Chief of

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